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Technical co-operation among developing countries

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MEASURES TO FACILITATE TCDC - STAFFING OF THE SPECIAL UNIT FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Administrator

1. In its decision 6/8 the High-level Committee emphasized the need to staff the Special Unit for TCDC to meet fully its responsibilities under its mandate, and urged the Governing Council of UNDP to consider greater financial and personnel support to the Special Unit for TCDC.

2. Responding to this and earlier decisions of the High-level Committee, and of the Governing Council, on this subject, the Administrator has endeavoured to maintain the staffing of the Special Unit at approximately the level he proposed in his report to the Committee at its sixth session. 1/ Thus, in the 1990-1991 biennium the Special Unit's staffing has included seven established Professional and higher-level posts, and eight General Service posts. In addition, two temporary Professional and two General Service level posts have been provided under Special Programme Resources funding.

3. The Administrator's budgetary proposals are the result of his overall assessment of the financial and budgetary situation of UNDP. In this connection, the Administrator is proposing a reduction in the overall number of Headquarters core posts, including a reduction of one Professional and one General Service post in the Special Unit for TCDC. This reduction is in line with that being made to all Headquarters bureaux and units totalling 96 posts. The reductions have been implemented on the basis of management initiatives to rationalize, simplify, restructure and decentralize.

1/ TCDC/6/8, paras. 4 and 5.

4. This being said, the Administrator fully recognizes the importance attached by the Council to technical cooperation among developing countries. In this connection, he is proposing to highlight the significance of TCDC by funding it together with the other priority themes identified in decision 90/34 from a specially identified appropriation line within the budget. He proposes to use this opportunity to regularize the two Professional and the two General Service posts previously funded from SPR project resources by financing them from the budget.

5. In summary, the impact of the Administrator's proposals on TCDC's budgetary staffing is that it will increase from seven Professional and eight General Service posts to eight Professional and nine General Service posts. The Administrator is confident that his proposals overall will enable the Special Unit to discharge its functions effectively and in full accordance with the mandate given to it.